

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

MARVEL
COMICS



EXCALIBUR

AS PART OF THE
X-MEN
THEY WERE ONCE
MUTANT OUTLAWS--

JAN
#116

US \$5.00

RAAB
RUBI
HUNTER

--NOW THEY MUST
PAY FOR THE
SINS OF THE PAST!



7-25274-02530-5
\$1.99 US \$2.70 CAN © 02530



DEATH IN VENICE

Stan Lee
EXCALIBUR
IN

816
GARY
WRITER

816
DUB
PENCILS

816
JANET
INKS

816 & 816
KEVIN TINKER
JOHN CURVED
EDITOR

816
COLORS
EDITOR

816
LETTERS

816
EDITOR IN CHIEF

MURT WAGNER
DO KNOWS THE
REAPER'S EYES.

HE KNOWS... FOR ONCE
HE STARED DEEPLY INTO
THEM ON A NIGHT SUCH AS
THIS, MANY YEARS AGO.

A NIGHT WHEN -- IF NOT
FOR THE AID OF A SINGLE
SAMARITAN -- HE WOULD
HAVE BECOME KIN TO
DEATH ITSELF... THE
VICTIM OF A BIGOTED,
BLOODTHIRSTY MOB.

"OUR
FATHER, WHO
RET IN HEVEN,
HALLOWED
BE THY
NAME..."

YES, THE MUTANT CALLED
NIGHTCRAWLER KNOWS
THE REAPER'S EYES.

THEY ARE HOLLOW...
COLD... AND BLACKER
THAN DARKEST MIDNIGHT.

AND LIKE THIS
SUBTERRANEAN
LABYRINTH WHERE
EXCALIBUR'S
SWASHBUCKLING
LEADER NOW FINDS
HIMSELF TRAPPED...

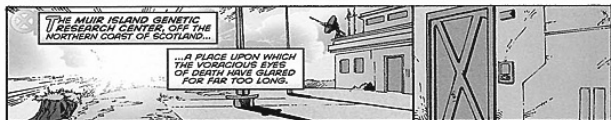
...THEY ARE AN
IMPENETRABLE
PITCH FROM
WHICH NEITHER
LIGHT NOR LIFE
DARES HOPE
TO ESCAPE!

© IN THE CLASSIC
COMIC-BOOK SIZE X-PH 1,
NATCH

EXCALIBUR: Vol. 1, No. 116, January, 1998. (ISSN #1083-3609) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Joseph Calamari, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Shmuel Rhodes, Executive VP Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1997 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$1.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$2.99 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. \$23.88; foreign \$35.88; and Canadian subscribers must add \$16.00 for postage and GST #R127032652. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. EXCALIBUR (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO EXCALIBUR, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING CORP./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT, 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (203) 743-5331. Printed in the U.S.A.











PIOTR NIKOLIEVITCH
RASPUTIN KNOWS THE
REAPER'S EYES TOO WELL.

TO THIS FORMER SIBERIAN FARM
BOY, THEY ARE THE EYES OF THE
DISPASSIONATE HARVESTER,
HACKING AWAY AT PEOPLE'S
SOULS LIKE FIELDS OF GRAIN...

...INCREMENTALLY CUTTING
A SWATH THROUGH THEIR
LIVES UNTIL THERE IS
NOTHING -- AND NO ONE --
LEFT TO HACK.

YES, COLOSSUS
KNOWS THE REAPER'S
EYES TOO WELL.

WHICH IS WHY HE STARES
DEFIANTLY IN ITS FACE BY
CONTINUING THE SEARCH FOR
HIS MISSING COMRADE...

...WITH THE AID OF
EXCALIBUR'S EXTRA-
TERRESTRIAL MEMBER,
DOUGLOCK.

"ITALY"
EKP CAN'T YOU
BE MORE SPECIFIC,
TOVARISCH?

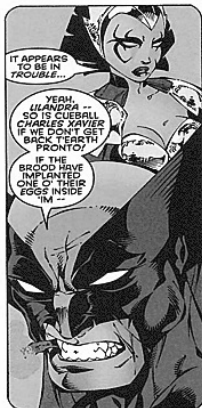
TRYING, PIOTR. IF
ONLY THIS MUTANT
TRACKING MACHINE
OF YOURS WASN'T
SO CROTCHETY!

STILL, I MAY BE
ABLE TO COAX IT
INTO HELPING US.









IT APPEARS
TO BE IN
TROUBLE...

YEAH,
LILANDRA --
SO IS CUEBALL
CHARLES XAVIER
IF WE DON'T GET
BACK TEARTH
PRONTO!

IF THE
BROOD HAVE
IMPLANTED
ONE O' THEIR
EGGS INSIDE
IM --



-- AIN'T NO TELLIN'
WHEN HE'LL TURN
INTO ONE O' THEM
SLEAZOIDS!

ARE WE NOW IN THE
BUSINESS OF DOLING
OUT DEATH SENTENCES...
WHETHER IT BE TO OUR
OWN, OR STRANGERS,
SUCH AS THESE
CREATURES?

PETEY
PURE HEART
HAS A POINT,
LOGAN.

MY
NEWFOUND
POWERS HELPED
CURE YOU GUYS WHEN
YOU WERE INFECTED.
MAYBE I CAN DO
THE SAME FOR
CHARLES.



ALL LIFE IS SACRED, BINARY --
AND SOMETHING TO BE CHERISHED,
MY FRIENDS, CHARLES --
THE SIDRIS -- EVEN THE
BROOD'S.

I BELIEVE WE CAN --
AND MUST -- AID
BOTH THESE AILING
SIDRI AND OUR
MENTOR.

CUTTING IT
AWFUL CLOSE
IF WE DID,
ORORO.

PERSONALLY
I'M NOT INCLINED
TO RISK THE PROFESSOR'S
LIFE FOR THE SAKE OF THIS
CLEARLY HOSTILE RACE.



BUT IT'S NOT OUR DECISION TO
MAKE, WE'RE JUST PASSENGERS
ON THIS RIDE, IT'S CORSAIR'S
CALL.



"SO, WHAT
DO YOU SAY...
DAD?"





WHAT'RE
YA DOIN', FUZZY?
HE'S WRONG TO LET
THOSE ALIENS JUST DIE
OUT THERE! YOU
KNOW I'M
RIGHT!

JR, I
DO, LEIBCHEN.
BUT ARGUING WITH
THE CAPTAIN IN FRONT
OF HIS CREW IS NOT
GOING TO MAKE
HM CHANGE HIS
MIND.

THERE
ARE CERTAIN
RULES OF DECORUM
BY WHICH WE MUST ALL
ABIDE. CERTAIN LAWS BY
WHICH OUR CONDUCT
AS GUESTS IS
GOVERNED.



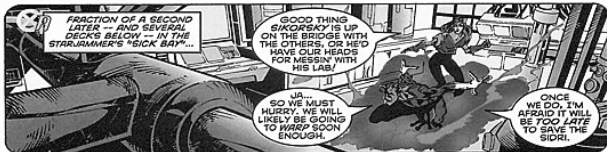
OF
COURSE
SOME LAWS...



ARE MEANT TO
BE BROKEN.

BAMF

EXACTLY.



FRACTION OF A SECOND
LATER -- AND SEVERAL
DECKS BELOW -- IN THE
STARJAMMER'S "SICK BAY"...

GOOD THING
SIKORSKY IS UP
ON THE BRIDGE WITH
THE OTHERS, OR HE'D
HAVE OUR HEADS
FOR MESSIN' WITH
HIS LAB!

JA...
SO WE MUST
HURRY. WE WILL
LIKELY BE GOING
TO WARP SOON
ENOUGH.

ONCE
WE DO, I'M
AFRAID IT WILL
BE TOO LATE
TO SAVE THE
SIDRI.



MY SHIP'S A TAD RUSTY, BUT I THINK I FOUND SOMETHING THAT MIGHT HELP.



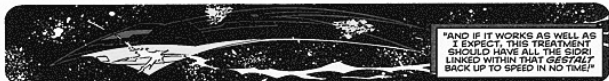
TEK
TEK
TEK

THIS LOOKS LIKE A REVITALIZATION SERUM.



"ONCE THE CAPSULE CONTAINING THE FORMULA HAS PUNCTURED THE SHIP'S OUTER 'HULL'...

"...IT'LL INSINUATE ITSELF INTO THEIR GENETIC CODES, COMPLETELY REPAIRING AND REWRITING ANY DAMAGED MATERIAL.



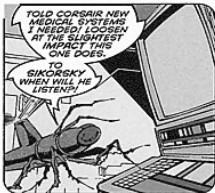
"AND IF IT WORKS AS WELL AS I EXPECT, THIS TREATMENT SHOULD HAVE ALL THE SIDRI LINKED WITHIN THAT *GESTALT* BACK UP TO SPEED IN NO TIME!"



SOMEONE'S COMING! LET'S GO!

BUT THE MOMENT AFTER OUR HEROES STEAL AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF THEIR ALTRUISTIC ACTION...

HMNN. A MUTATION VIRUS HAS BEEN JETTISONED.



TOLD CORSAIR NEW MEDICAL SYSTEMS I NEEDED! LOOSEN AT THE SLIGHTEST IMPACT THIS ONE DOES.

TO SIKORSKY WHEN WILL HE LISTEN!





NOW DO YOU RECALL
THE EVENT THAT MADE
US ASSASSINATIONS IN
THE EYES OF OUR
PEOPLE?

WE
RETURNED TO
OUR HOMETOWN,
SEEKING SHELTER, BUT
WERE GREETED WITH
SCORN, HATRED AND
ULTIMATELY
EXILE.

I --
WE -- HAD NO
IDEA...



OF COURSE YOU DON'T.
HOW COULD A SPECIES SUCH
AS YOURS -- A SPECIES OF
SELF-IMPORTANT,
SELF-SERVING
INDIVIDUALS --

-- UNDERSTAND
WHAT IT MEANS TO BE
AN OUTCAST... A PARIAH...
FOR NO OTHER REASON
THAN THAT YOU
SIMPLY EXIST!

MORE
THAN YOU CAN
IMAGINE.

LOOK
AT ME! MY
FACE... MY BODY.
DO I REPRESENT
THE TYPICAL
HUMAN?

I AM AS
SCORNFUL BY
MY OWN PEOPLE
AS YOU WERE
BY YOURS!



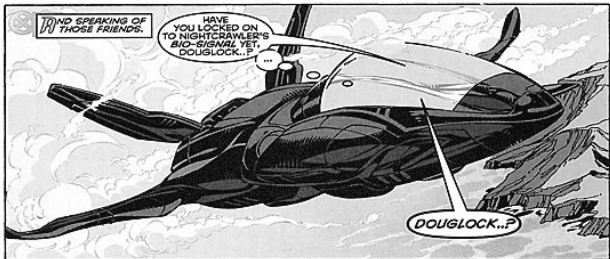
THAT WOULD EXPLAIN
WHY THE MAMMALS
CALLING THEMSELVES
"BLACK AIR" SO
EAGERLY FORGOT
HIM TO US.

NO MATTER HE
WILL SOON BE
DEAD.



AND
SO SHALL HIS
FRIENDS!

© SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED TO
JUST BETWEEN ISSUES 110-114
COP-A-CLUE COURSE



© SHE JOINED NOIRA MACAGGERT IN A SELF-IMPOSED QUARANTINE ON NUIR ISLAND LAST ISSUE!



© TRANSLATED FROM ITALIAN: KELLW

SPLASH

DIVING DEEP BELOW THE MURKY CANAL, EXCALIBUR'S "MIDNIGHT RUNNER" NAVIGATES SLOWLY... UNSTEADILY... AS IF IN ANTICIPATION OF IMPENDING TRAGEDY.

HAVING JUST PASSED BENEATH THE INFAMOUS "BRIDGE OF SIGHS" --

-- THE ROMANTICIZED SITE THAT WAS ONCE THE FINAL PATH OF CONDEMNED MEN, SENTENCED TO DEATH --

-- A CHILLING SILENCE DESCENDS UPON OUR ANXIOUS HEROES WHO FEAR A SIMILAR FATE HAS BEFALLEN THEIR MISSING FRIEND.



ONLY THEN, AT THE BOTTOM OF THE CANAL, DOES EXCALIBUR REALIZE HOW PROPHETIC WERE THEIR FEARS...

HOLY MOTHER O'MERCY! -- NOT IN GOD'S NAME IS THAT?!

THOUGH ALL SENSORS INDICATE IT TO BE OUR "TARGET," I AM NOT SURE, DOUGLOCK --?

HMNN. DESPITE THE OBVIOUS VARIATIONS TO THE OUTER EPIDERMAL HULL -- COULD BE A MUTATION OF SOME SORT...



...THAT'S DEFINITELY A SIDRI SHIP.



"SIDRI"...?!

BOZHE MOI, NYET!

EVASIVE MANEUVERS, WISDOM --

NOW!





WITH MEGGAN DOWN, THERE'S NO WAY TO STOP THIS TIDE. SOON THE CABIN WILL BE COMPLETELY FLOODED!

THOUGH IN MY ARMORED FORM I DON'T HAVE TO BREATHE...

...MY COMRADES WILL SURELY DROWN IN HERE.

HAVE YOU ENOUGH OXYGEN TO MAKE IT TO THE SURFACE CARRYING DOUGLOCK AND MEGGAN..P



MAMM HUNPH!



GOOD... THEN I SHALL PROVIDE THEM WITH AN EXIT!

NOW... IF ONLY FORTUNE IS KIND ENOUGH TO LET THEM SWIM TO SAFETY!

SMASH

HOW MY CONSCIENCE WOULD CRACK IF MY SOLE ACCOMPLISHMENT ON THIS MISSION WAS TO LEAD MY FRIENDS TO A WATERY GRAVE.



LUCKILY, THE SIDRI SEEM CONTENT ENOUGH TO MAKE ME THEIR LONE TARGET!

ZARK

GOOD. WE HAVE COME TOO FAR TO FORSAKE OUR QUEST NOW!



IF NIGHTCRAWLER YET LIVES, TRAPPED SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE BELLY OF THAT ALIEN BEAST...

... THEN BY MY OWN LIFE DO I SWEAR THAT MY FRIEND... MY BROTHER ...



--SHALL
BE FREE!

SHRRRIP



SO MUCH FOR
THE "SUBTLE"
APPROACH.

KURT --P/ CAN
YOU HEAR ME,
TOVARISCH?

THE
DEAD ARE NOT
REMOVING FOR
THEIR HEARING,
TERRAN.

SHOW
YOURSELF,
SIDR!

FACE ME,
MONSTER --
IF YOU
DARE!



AREN'T YOU THE
PROUD ONE, METAL
MAN?

Likelihood!

WHAM



YOU WISH TO CHALLENGE
US FOR YOUR FRIEND'S
LIFE? VERY WELL, TERRAN.
WE ACCEPT!

WE
HAVE NOTHING
LEFT TO LOSE



SPLORCH

--CAN
YOU SAY THE
SAME?





"NOW... DISCOVER WHY
THE SDR ARE THE MOST
FEARED HUNTERS IN ALL
THE KNOWN GALAXIES —"

SPLORCH

SPLORCH

AND
DIE!

TO BE
CONCLUDED...!

MEET

EXCALIBUR



United to preserve the dream of Professor Charles Xavier, they have sought to extend the message of the X-Men beyond the shores of America. Operating out of their headquarters on Muir Island in Scotland, they've sworn to defend mutantkind from a world that both hates and fears them, for they are... EXCALIBUR!

**NIGHTCRAWLER**

Born with the mutant ability to teleport short distances, stick to walls and ceilings, and turn virtually invisible when in deep shadows, the German-born Kurt Wagner is the blue-skinned leader of Excalibur.

**S H A D O W C A T**

American-born Kitty Pryde has the mutant ability to turn her body intangible and walk on air with but a thought. Trained in the ways of the Samurai and the ninja, Shadowcat's physical prowess is balanced by her brilliant mind and her formal X-Men training.

**C O L O S S U S**

The Russian mutant born Piotr Rasputin is the powerhouse of Excalibur. His artistic heart is masked by his cold, hard exterior, as Colossus has the ability to transform his flesh and blood into a form of impervious organic steel!

**W O L F S B A N E**

Rahne Sinclair is the youngest member of Excalibur, but her mutant ability to transform from a shy young woman to a human/wolf hybrid and to a complete wolf makes her a force to be reckoned with!

**M E G G A N**

Linked to the elemental forces of Great Britain as a faerie, the enigmatic but naive Meggan has the ability to change her physical form at will, as well as the power to shape the very forces of nature to fit her needs.

**P E T E W I S D O M**

A former intelligence operative with the mutant ability to generate "hot knives". Boyfriend to Kitty Pryde, he remains a reluctant member of Excalibur.

**M O I R A M a C T A G G E R T**

Head of the Mutant Research Center on Muir Island, Moira has recently devoted her research to finding a cure for the mutant-killing Legacy Virus. As if this wasn't enough for her to deal with, Moira also bears the burden of being the first human to contract the deadly disease.

**D O U G L O C K**

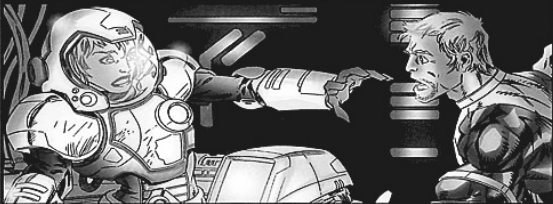
Although his body is comprised of Phalanx physiology, Douglock is not a member of that alien race. Though his resemblance to the deceased Douglas Ramsey is not a coincidence, Douglock's quest for humanity and the truth about who he is continues to elude him.



PREVIOUSLY IN...

EXCALIBUR

BANSHEE rushed to MOIRA's side when he was informed that she was putting into effect the next phase of her Legacy Virus research. Namely, she planned to quarantine herself to examine the progress of her illness in an isolated atmosphere.



Meanwhile, PETE WISDOM tried searching for his missing teammate NIGHTCRAWLER with the aid of Muir Island's version of CEREBRO.



Back in MOIRA's lab the other EXCALIBUR members gathered to say their goodbyes to MOIRA. In the last few seconds before the automated doors locked Moira in, WOLFESBANE leaped inside and was trapped with Moira. RAHNE SINCLAIR could not bear seeing Moira in there all alone. Now she, too, is trapped inside.